Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for analyzing clinically related data, comprising:

a first interface to a clinical data store storing clinically related data;

a second interface to a knowledge base; and

an inference engine that communicates with the clinical data store via the first interface and with the knowledge base via the second interface, the inference engine

selectively performing a comparative analysis of a key performance indicator of the clinically related data against the knowledge base, wherein the key performance indicator is representative of at least one of a financial metric, an operational metric, or a clinical metric for operation of the clinical facility or organization,

projecting at least one facility-wide outcome that predicts an operational effect of altering a guideline or a policy being used in a clinical facility or organization based on the comparative analysis, [[and]]

quantifying at least one opportunity for improvement [[when]] resulting from implementation of the altered guideline or policy is utilized in the clinical facility or organization,

comparing result data from a control group that adheres to the altered guideline or policy and a non-control group that does not adhere to the altered guideline or policy, wherein the result data includes one or more of clinical and cost data for patients treated by the control group and the non-control group, and

reassessing the at least one opportunity for improvement resulting from implementation of the altered guideline or policy in the clinical facility or organization based on the comparing of the result data.

~~wherein the key performance indicator is representative of at least one of a financial metric, an operational metric, or a clinical metric for operation of the clinical facility or organization.~~

2.   (Original)   A system according to claim 1, wherein the clinical data store comprises a data warehouse.

3.   (Original)   A system according to claim 2, wherein the data warehouse stores clinically related data from at least one clinical facility.

4.   (Original)   A system according to claim 3, wherein the at least one clinical facility comprises at least one of a hospital site and a research site.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Original)   A system according to claim 1, wherein the knowledge base comprises a set of clinical guidelines.

7.   (Original)   A system according to claim 6, wherein the clinical guidelines comprise best practices data.

8.   (Original)   A system according to claim 7, wherein the best practices data comprises pharmaceutical information, medical procedure information and historical outcomes information.

9.   (Previously Presented)   A system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one facility-wide outcome comprises a financial outcome, an operational outcome, or a clinical outcome corresponding with a plurality of patients, or a combination thereof.

10.   (Previously Presented)   A system according to claim 9, wherein the at least one facility-wide outcome comprises at least one of estimated patient mortality information, estimated patient morbidity information and estimated clinical cost information.

11.   (Original)   A system according to claim 1, wherein the inference engine stores the comparative analysis to storage.

12.   (Currently Amended) One or more tangible computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions embodied thereon that, when executed, perform a method of analyzing clinically related data, the method comprising:

accessing clinically related data that ~~includes a data set that~~ has been processed to generate multidimensional extensions of ~~the~~ raw data, the multidimensional extensions reflecting groupings and logical structures not present in the raw data;

accessing a knowledge base; [[and]]

selectively performing, via a computing device having a processor, a comparative analysis of a first key performance indicator of the clinically related data against the knowledge base using the groupings and logical structures reflected by the multidimensional extensions of the clinically related data, ~~via a computing device having a processor,~~ wherein the comparative analysis projects at least one facility-wide outcome that predicts an operational effect of altering a guideline or policy in a clinical facility or organization based on an analysis of the clinically related data and a clinical guideline or policy selected from the knowledge base and quantifies an opportunity for improvement that is expected to result from [[a]] subsequently altering [[of]] the guideline or policy, wherein the first key performance indicator is indicative of at least one of a financial metric, an operational metric, or a clinical metric for operation of the clinical facility or organization, and the at least one facility-wide outcome includes one or more of a financial outcome, an operational outcome, or a clinical outcome corresponding with a plurality of patients;

~~providing an indication of a second key performance indicator that is most significant to a first user, wherein the second key performance indicator is the same or different from the first key performance indicator; and~~

generating an alert that notifies a second user when an action of the second user violates the altered guideline or policy of the clinical facility or organization, wherein the second user is the same or different from the first user;

determining a control group of users that adhere to the altered guideline or policy;

determining a non-control group of users that do not adhere to the altered

guideline or policy;

comparing data from the control group with data from the non-control

group to identify a trend associated with implementation of the altered guideline

or policy; and

updating the comparative analysis by using the trend to project an updated

facility-wide outcome.

13.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 12, wherein the step of

accessing clinically related data comprises accessing a data warehouse.

14.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 13, wherein the data

warehouse stores clinically related data from at least one clinical facility.

15.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 14, wherein the at least

one clinical facility comprises at least one of a hospital site and a research site.

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 12, wherein the

knowledge base comprises a set of clinical guidelines.

18.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 17, wherein the clinical

guidelines comprise best practices data.

19.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 18, wherein the best practices data comprises pharmaceutical information, medical procedure information and historical outcomes information.

20.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 12, wherein the at least one facility-wide outcome comprises a financial outcome, an operational outcome, or a clinical outcome corresponding with a plurality of patients, or a combination thereof.

21.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 12, wherein the at least one facility-wide outcome comprises at least one of estimated patient mortality information, estimated patient morbidity information and estimated clinical cost information.

22.   (Previously Presented)   The media of claim 12, further comprising a step of storing the comparative analysis to storage.

23.   (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method of generating an analytic report, the method comprising:

>   receiving a selection of one of a plurality of guidelines, policies and procedures stored within a knowledge base;

>   accessing, via a first computing device having a processor, clinically related data that includes one or more data elements that have been conditioned to provide multidimensional extensions of the data reflecting groupings and logical structures not present in raw data and that corresponds correspond with a plurality of patients;

selectively performing, via a second computing device having a processor, a comparative analysis of the clinically related data against the selected guideline, policy or procedure contained within the knowledge base to provide an indication ~~as to~~ whether <u>implementation of</u> the selected guideline, policy or procedure has been attained by a medical facility, <u>wherein the comparative analysis employs a grouping or logical structure in the clinically related data that was not present in the raw data, and</u> wherein the second computing device is the same or different from the first computing device;

receiving an alteration of the selected guideline, policy, or procedure stored within the knowledge base, wherein altering the guideline, policy, or procedure comprises altering a procedure for one or more of providing a drug to a patient, providing surgery to a patient, and discharging a patient from the medical facility;

using the altered selected guideline, policy or procedure and the clinically related data corresponding with the plurality of patients to perform a predictive analysis that projects at least one operational, financial, or other facility-wide outcome that predicts an operational effect of implementing the altered selected guideline, policy, or procedure in a clinical facility or organization;

quantifying an opportunity for improvement that is expected to result [[when]] <u>from implementation of</u> the altered selected guideline, policy, or procedure ~~is used~~ by the medical facility;

updating the clinically related data after an implementation of the altered

selected guideline, policy, or procedure to determine whether a patient outcome or

a cost has improved or ~~declined,~~ declined; and

cataloging overrides of the altered selected guideline, policy, or procedure

by users.

24.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 23, wherein
the step of accessing clinically related data comprises accessing a data warehouse.

25.   (Previously Presented)   The method according to claim 23, wherein
the step of selectively performing a comparative analysis comprises performing an analysis of at
least one key performance indicator.

26. – 34.   (Canceled)

35.   (New) One or more tangible computer-readable media having computer-
executable instructions embodied thereon that, when executed perform a method of analyzing
clinically related data, the method comprising:

conditioning raw clinically related data to provide multidimensional

extensions to the raw data that identify groupings and logical structures that are

not present in the raw data;

accessing a knowledge base that includes one or more of medical, clinical,

and operational guidelines;

receiving a selection of a guideline from the knowledge base;

receiving an alteration of the guideline;

accessing the conditioned clinically related data;

performing a comparative analysis of the conditioned clinically related data against the knowledge base to project an operational effect of implementing the alteration of the guideline, wherein objective guidelines stored in the knowledge base provide constraints on the comparative analysis, and wherein the comparative analysis considers relationships in the clinically related data that are provided by the multidimensional extensions of the clinically related data;

quantifying the operational effect to indicate one or more of changes in patient outcomes and financial changes;

determining a control group of medical personnel that adhere to the altered guideline and a non-control group of medical personnel that do not adhere to the altered guideline;

comparing one or more of patient clinical data and financial data for patients treated by the medical personnel in the control group and the non-control group to identify a trend; and

projecting a revised operational effect that may result from implementing the alteration of the guideline based on the trend.